

Effective October 20, 1997

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR U.S. PATENT APPLICATION

(X) Original () Supplemental () Substitute () PCT () Design

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that I verily believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

Title: VACUUM CLEANER

of which is described and claimed in:

() the attached specification, or

(X) the specification in the application Serial No. 09/347,412 filed July 6, 1999; and with amendments through Preliminary Amendment (if applicable), or

() the specification in International Application No. PCT/_____, filed _____, and as amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the content of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment(s) referred to above.

I acknowledge my duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 (and §172 if this application is for a Design) of any application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NO.	DATE OF FILING	PRIORITY CLAIMED
Japan	10-190062	July 6, 1998	YES
Japan	10-191194	July 7, 1998	YES
Japan	10-191195	July 7, 1998	YES
Japan	10-302461	October 23, 1998	YES
Japan	10-302462	October 23, 1998	YES

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

APPLICATION SERIAL NO.	U.S. FILING DATE	STATUS: PATENTED, PENDING, ABANDONED

And I hereby appoint Michael R. Davis, Reg. No. 25,134; Matthew M. Jacob, Reg. No. 25,154; Jeffrey Nolton, Reg. No. 25,408; Warren M. Check, Jr., Reg. No. 33,367; Nils E. Pedersen, Reg. No. 33,145; and, Charles R. Watts, Reg. No. 33,142, who together constitute the firm of WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P., jointly and severally, attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

I hereby authorize the U.S. attorneys named herein to accept and follow instructions from Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd. as to any action to be taken in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorneys and myself. In the event of a change in the persons from whom instructions may be taken, the U.S. attorneys named herein will be so notified by me.

Send Correspondence to

WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P.
2033 K Street, N.W., Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20006

Direct Telephone Calls to:

WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P.
Area Code (202) 721-8200

Direct Facsimile Messages to:

Area Code (202) 721-8250

Full Name of First Inventor	FAMILY NAME KATO	FIRST GIVEN NAME Tomonori	SECOND GIVEN NAME
Residence & Citizenship	CITY Shiga,	STATE OR COUNTRY Japan	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Japan
Post Office Address	ADDRESS 520 Hayashida-cho, Yokaichi-shi, Shiga, 527-0051	CITY	STATE OR COUNTRY Japan
Full Name of Second Inventor	FAMILY NAME NISHIKORI	FIRST GIVEN NAME Tamaki	SECOND GIVEN NAME
Residence & Citizenship	CITY Shiga,	STATE OR COUNTRY Japan	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Japan
Post Office Address	ADDRESS 2-7-11, Sakuragaoka, Kusatsu-shi, Shiga, 525-0057	CITY	STATE OR COUNTRY Japan
Full Name of Third Inventor	FAMILY NAME HAYAKAWA	FIRST GIVEN NAME Hiroshi	SECOND GIVEN NAME
Residence & Citizenship	CITY Shiga,	STATE OR COUNTRY Japan	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Japan
Post Office Address	ADDRESS 386-35, Yamazura, Ryuo-cho, Gamo-gun, Shiga, 20-2564	CITY	STATE OR COUNTRY Japan
Full Name of Fourth Inventor	FAMILY NAME OHARA	FIRST GIVEN NAME Naoyuki	SECOND GIVEN NAME
Residence & Citizenship	CITY Shiga,	STATE OR COUNTRY Japan	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Japan
Post Office Address	ADDRESS 670-8, Myohoji-cho, Yokaichi-shi, Shiga, 527-0046	CITY	STATE OR COUNTRY Japan

Full Name of Fifth Inventor	FAMILY NAME ITO	FIRST GIVEN NAME Koichi	SECOND GIVEN NAME
Residence & Citizenship	CITY Shiga,	STATE OR COUNTRY Japan	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Japan
Post Office Address	ADDRESS 443-24, Hayashi, Notogawa-cho, Kanzaki-gun, Shiga,	CITY 521-1224	STATE OR COUNTRY Japan
Full Name of Sixth Inventor	FAMILY NAME ODACHI	FIRST GIVEN NAME Toru	SECOND GIVEN NAME
Residence & Citizenship	CITY Shiga,	STATE OR COUNTRY Japan	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Japan
Post Office Address	ADDRESS 2416-10-105, Aza Fuku, Owaki-cho, Yokaichi-shi, Shiga,	CITY 527-0091	STATE OR COUNTRY Japan
Full Name of Seventh Inventor	FAMILY NAME HAYASHI	FIRST GIVEN NAME Seizo	SECOND GIVEN NAME
Residence & Citizenship	CITY Shiga,	STATE OR COUNTRY Japan	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Japan
Post Office Address	ADDRESS 699, Demachi, Omihachiman-shi, Shiga,	CITY 523-0892	STATE OR COUNTRY Japan

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

1st Inventor	<u>Tomonori KATO</u>	Date	<u>September 17, 1999</u>
2nd Inventor	<u>Tamaki NISHIKORI</u>	Date	<u>September 17, 1999</u>
3rd Inventor	<u>Hiroshi HAYAKAWA</u>	Date	<u>September 17, 1999</u>
4th Inventor	<u>Naoyuki OHARA</u>	Date	<u>September 17, 1999</u>
5th Inventor	<u>Koichi ITO</u>	Date	<u>September 17, 1999</u>
6th Inventor	<u>Toru ODACHI</u>	Date	<u>September 17, 1999</u>
7th Inventor	<u>Seizo HAYASHI</u>	Date	<u>September 17, 1999</u>

The above application may be more particularly identified as follows:

U.S. Application Serial No. 09/347,412 Filing Date July 6, 1999

Applicant Reference Number P20933-01 Atty Docket No. 169/P20933-01

Title of Invention VACUUM CLEANER